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X-MEN
Young Dragons in Love

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TOKYO STORY

A STAN LEE PRESENTATION STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN

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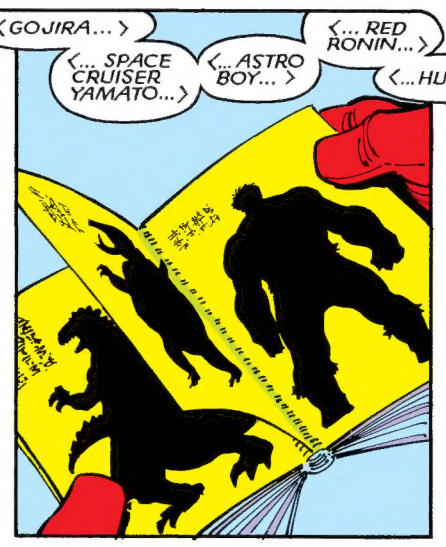
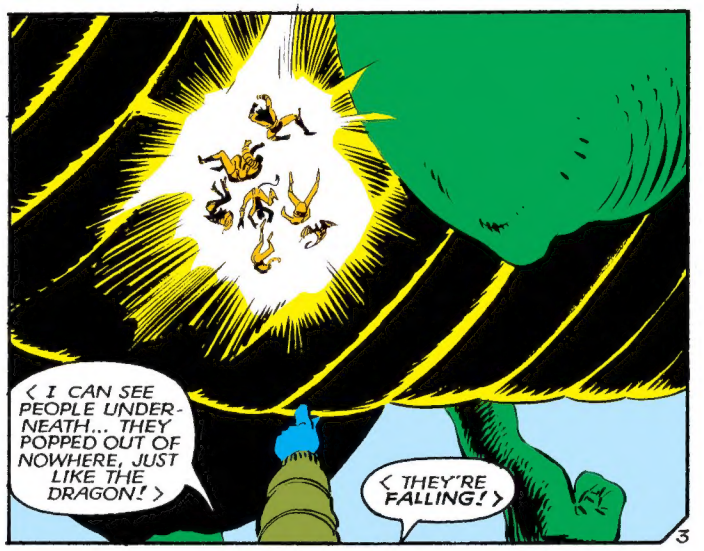
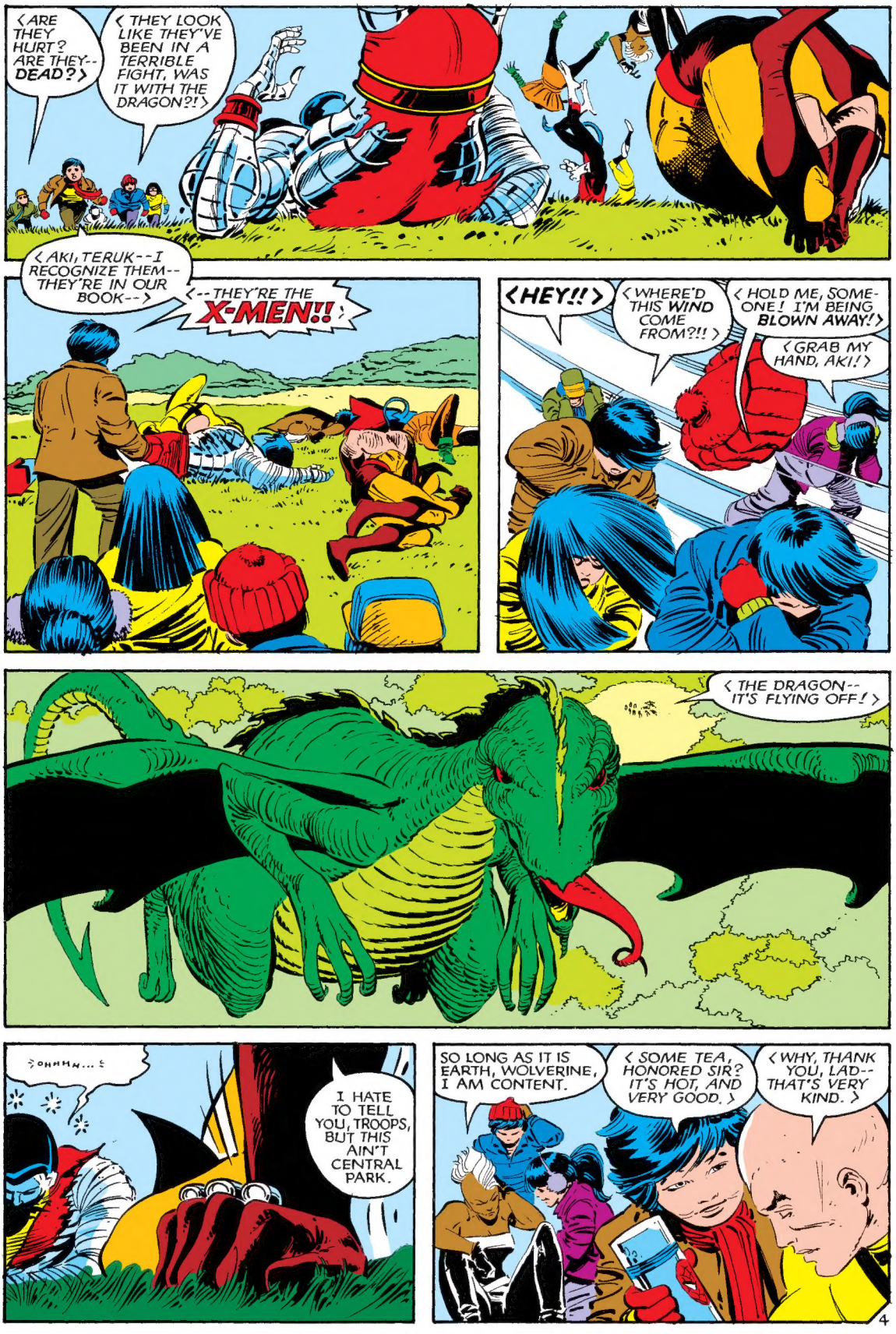
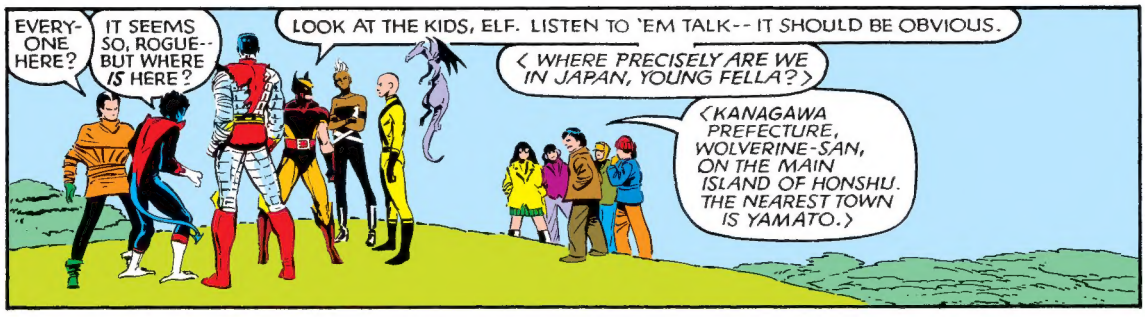
TOM ORZECHOWSKI *letterer* — GLYNIS WEIN *colorist* — LOUISE JONES *editor* — JIM SHOOTER *editor-in-chief*

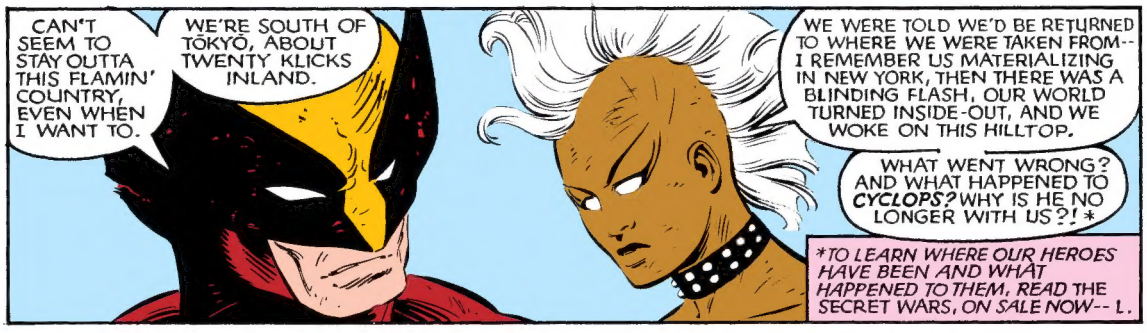
<--A DRAGON!>



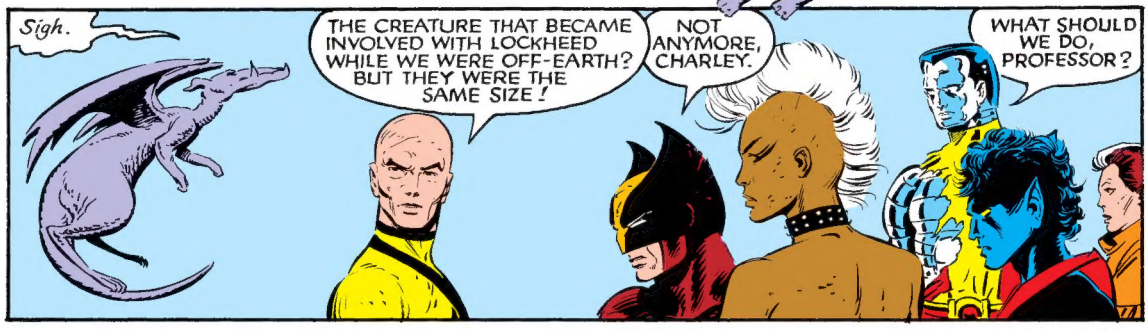


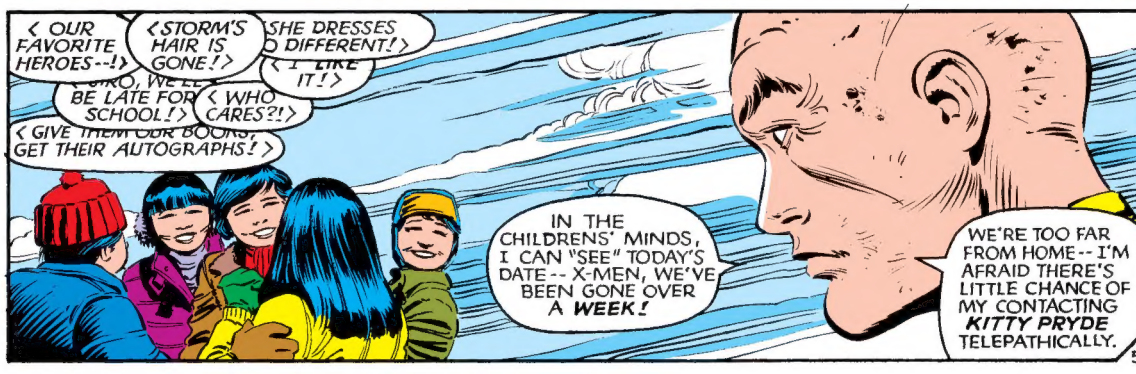

< ARE THEY HURT? ARE THEY-- DEAD? >
< THEY LOOK LIKE THEY'VE BEEN IN A TERRIBLE FIGHT, WAS IT WITH THE DRAGON?! >
< AKI, TERUK--I RECOGNIZE THEM-- THEY'RE IN OUR BOOK-- >
<--THEY'RE THE X-MEN!! >
<HEY!! >
< WHERE'D THIS WIND COME FROM?!! >
< HOLD ME, SOMEONE! I'M BEING BLOWN AWAY! >
< GRAB MY HAND, AKI! >
< THE DRAGON-- IT'S FLYING OFF! >
?OHHHH...?
I HATE TO TELL YOU, TROOPS, BUT THIS AIN'T CENTRAL PARK.
SO LONG AS IT IS EARTH, WOLVERINE, I AM CONTENT.
< SOME TEA, HONORED SIR? IT'S HOT, AND VERY GOOD. >
< WHY, THANK YOU, LAD-- THAT'S VERY KIND. >


EVERY-ONE HERE?
IT SEEMS SO, ROGUE-- BUT WHERE IS HERE?
LOOK AT THE KIDS, ELF. LISTEN TO 'EM TALK-- IT SHOULD BE OBVIOUS.
< WHERE PRECISELY ARE WE IN JAPAN, YOUNG FELLA? >
<KANAGAWA PREFECTURE, WOLVERINE-SAN, ON THE MAIN ISLAND OF HONSHU. THE NEAREST TOWN IS YAMATO.>

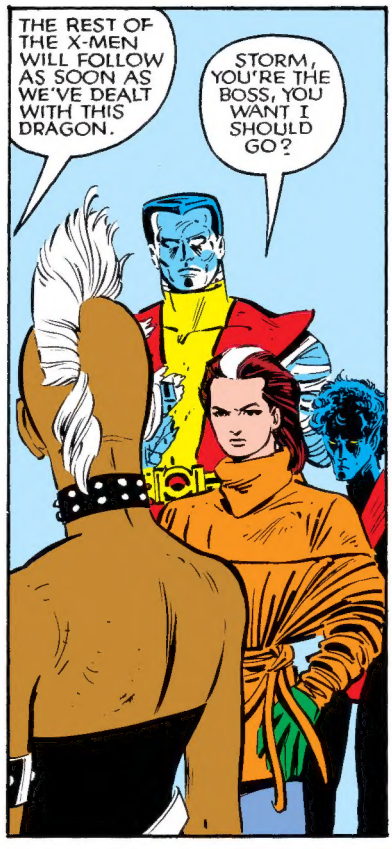

CAN'T SEEM TO STAY OUTTA THIS FLAMIN' COUNTRY, EVEN WHEN I WANT TO.
WE'RE SOUTH OF TOKYO, ABOUT TWENTY KLICKS INLAND.
WE WERE TOLD WE'D BE RETURNED TO WHERE WE WERE TAKEN FROM-- I REMEMBER US MATERIALIZING IN NEW YORK, THEN THERE WAS A BLINDING FLASH, OUR WORLD TURNED INSIDE-OUT, AND WE WOKE ON THIS HILLTOP.
WHAT WENT WRONG? AND WHAT HAPPENED TO CYCLOPS? WHY IS HE NO LONGER WITH US?! *
*TO LEARN WHERE OUR HEROES HAVE BEEN AND WHAT HAPPENED TO THEM, READ THE SECRET WARS, ON SALE NOW-- L.

< EXCUSE ME, BUT IS THAT LITTLE DRAGON RELATED TO THE GIANT ONE THAT JUST FLEW AWAY? >
Humph!
< DRAGON?! WHAT DRAGON?!? >

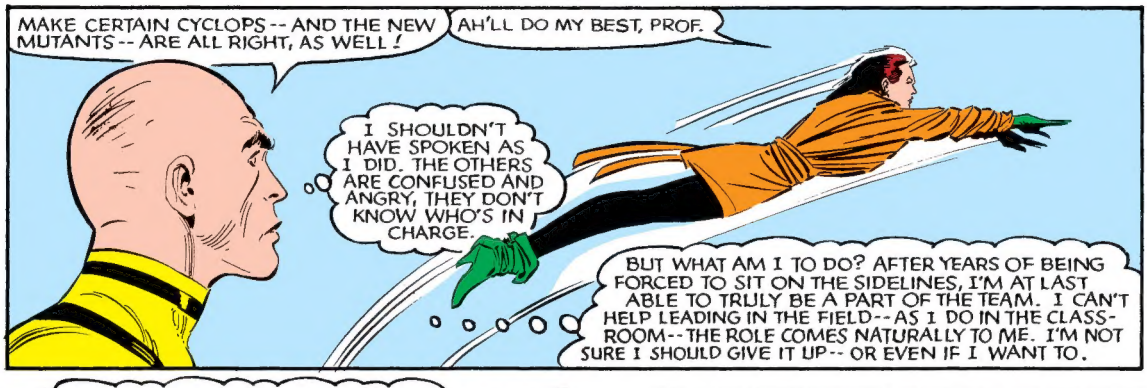

Sigh.
THE CREATURE THAT BECAME INVOLVED WITH LOCKHEED WHILE WE WERE OFF-EARTH? BUT THEY WERE THE SAME SIZE!
NOT ANYMORE, CHARLEY.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO, PROFESSOR?

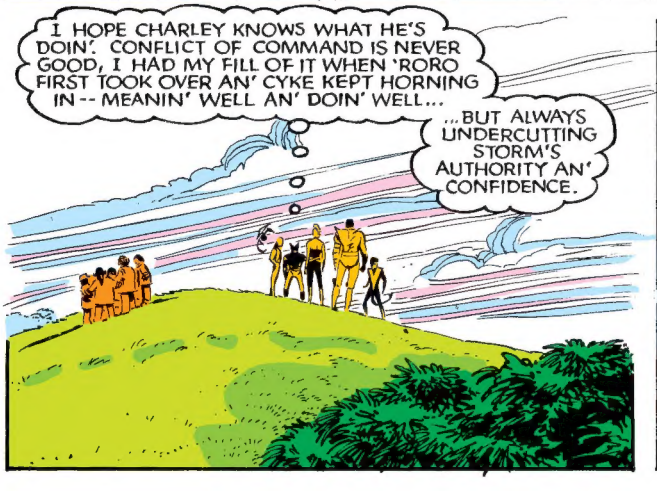

< OUR FAVORITE HEROES--!>
<STORM'S HAIR IS GONE!>
SHE DRESSES DIFFERENT!>
< I LIKE IT!>
BE LATE FOR SCHOOL!>
< WHO CARES?!>
< GIVE THEM OUR BOOKS, GET THEIR AUTOGRAPHS! >
IN THE CHILDRENS' MINDS, I CAN "SEE" TODAY'S DATE-- X-MEN, WE'VE BEEN GONE OVER A WEEK!
WE'RE TOO FAR FROM HOME-- I'M AFRAID THERE'S LITTLE CHANCE OF MY CONTACTING KITTY PRYDE TELEPATHICALLY.

WHEN WE WERE SNATCHED FROM EARTH BY THE BEYONDER, KITTY HAD JUST FLOWN OFF TO THE MASSACHUSETTS ACADEMY WITH HER FRIEND, DOUGLAS RAMSEY. SINCE THAT SCHOOL IS AFFILIATED WITH THE HELLFIRE CLUB, SHE WAS DEPENDING ON US TO BACK HER UP IN CASE OF TROUBLE.
ROGUE, YOU CAN REACH HOME FAR FASTER THAN ANY OF US -- SAVE PERHAPS STORM -- AND HAVE SUFFICIENT POWER TO AID KITTY SHOULD SHE NEED IT.

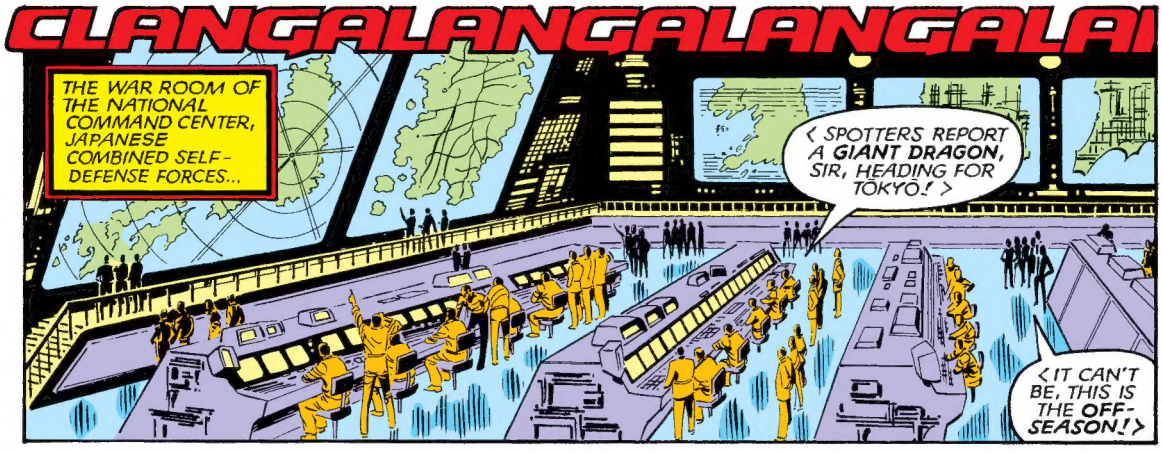

THE REST OF THE X-MEN WILL FOLLOW AS SOON AS WE'VE DEALT WITH THIS DRAGON.
STORM, YOU'RE THE BOSS, YOU WANT I SHOULD GO?

MUCH AS I WOULD LOVE TO, ROGUE, MY PLACE IS WITH THE TEAM.
THE DRAGON IS HERE BECAUSE OF US. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR IT -- WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO ENSURE IT DOES NO HARM.

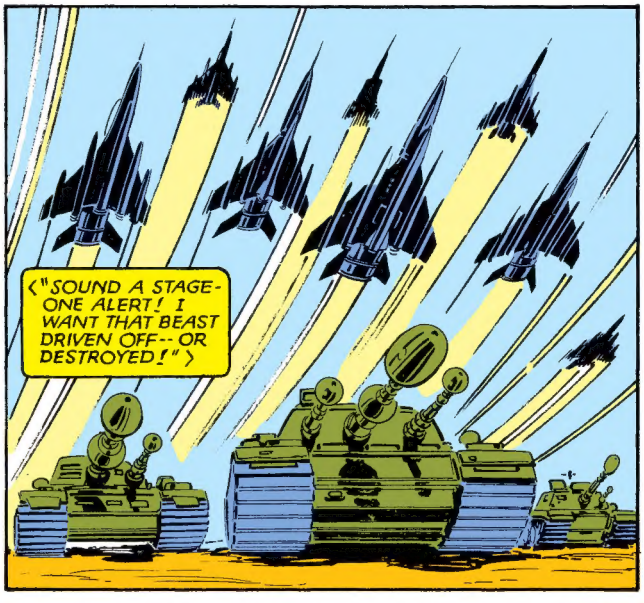

MAKE CERTAIN CYCLOPS -- AND THE NEW MUTANTS -- ARE ALL RIGHT, AS WELL!
AH'LL DO MY BEST, PROF.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SPOKEN AS I DID. THE OTHERS ARE CONFUSED AND ANGRY, THEY DON'T KNOW WHO'S IN CHARGE.
BUT WHAT AM I TO DO? AFTER YEARS OF BEING FORCED TO SIT ON THE SIDELINES, I'M AT LAST ABLE TO TRULY BE A PART OF THE TEAM. I CAN'T HELP LEADING IN THE FIELD -- AS I DO IN THE CLASSROOM -- THE ROLE COMES NATURALLY TO ME. I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD GIVE IT UP -- OR EVEN IF I WANT TO.


I HOPE CHARLEY KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOIN'. CONFLICT OF COMMAND IS NEVER GOOD, I HAD MY FILL OF IT WHEN 'RORO FIRST TOOK OVER AN' CYKE KEPT HORNING IN -- MEANIN' WELL AN' DOIN' WELL...
...BUT ALWAYS UNDERCUTTING STORM'S AUTHORITY AN' CONFIDENCE.

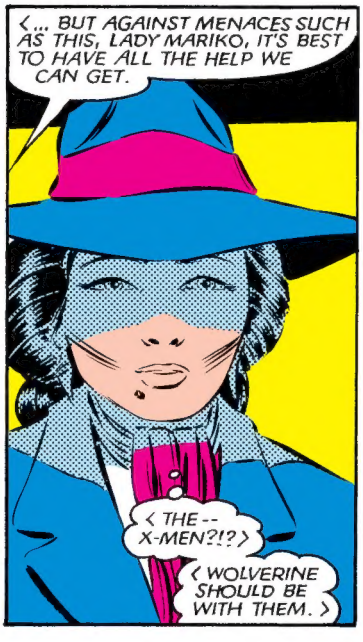
THAT WAS WHEN SHE STARTED GETTING TOUGH INSIDE -- I WONDER IF SHE WAS OVER-COMPENSATING, TRYIN' TO BE BETTER'N CYKE AT THE JOB HE DID BETTER THAN ANYONE?
STORM TORE OUT HER SOUL TO DO THIS JOB, CHARLEY -- AN' YOUR PULLIN' RANK AS MUCH AS TELLS HER IT WAS FOR NOTHING, THAT YOU THINK SHE CAN'T CUT IT.
THAT'S WRONG, BUB -- AN' SO ARE YOU.


CLANGALANGALANGALAI
THE WAR ROOM OF THE NATIONAL COMMAND CENTER, JAPANESE COMBINED SELF-DEFENSE FORCES...
< SPOTTERS REPORT A GIANT DRAGON, SIR, HEADING FOR TOKYO! >
< IT CAN'T BE, THIS IS THE OFF-SEASON! >

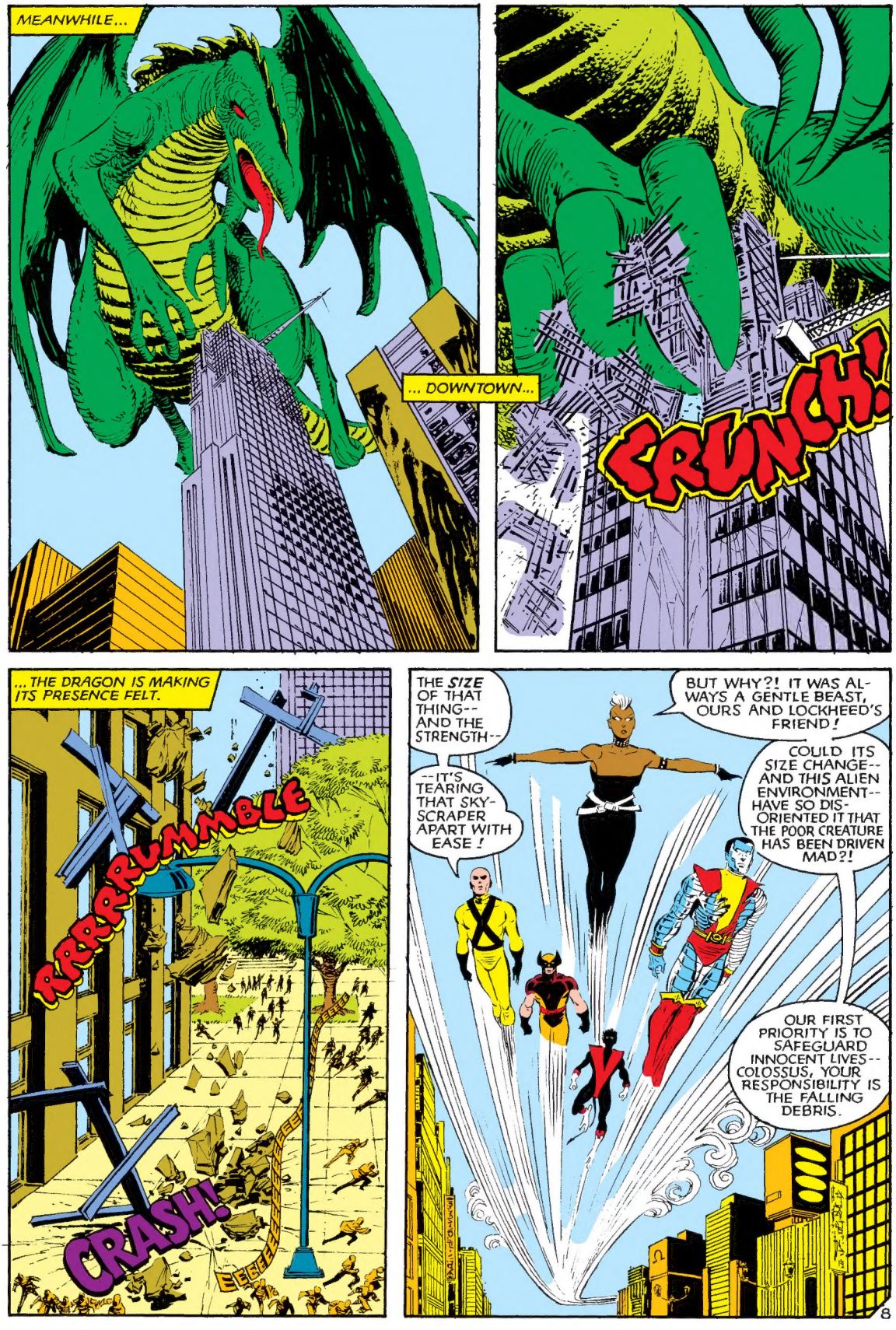
< MONSTER ISLAND REPORTS ALL THEIR CREATURES PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR. >
< JUST WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS, ANOTHER MONSTER. WHY US, HIDEKI? WHY COULDN'T IT HAVE ATTACKED LOS ANGELES? >
< IT'S DIRECTLY OVER THE CITY, GENERAL. >

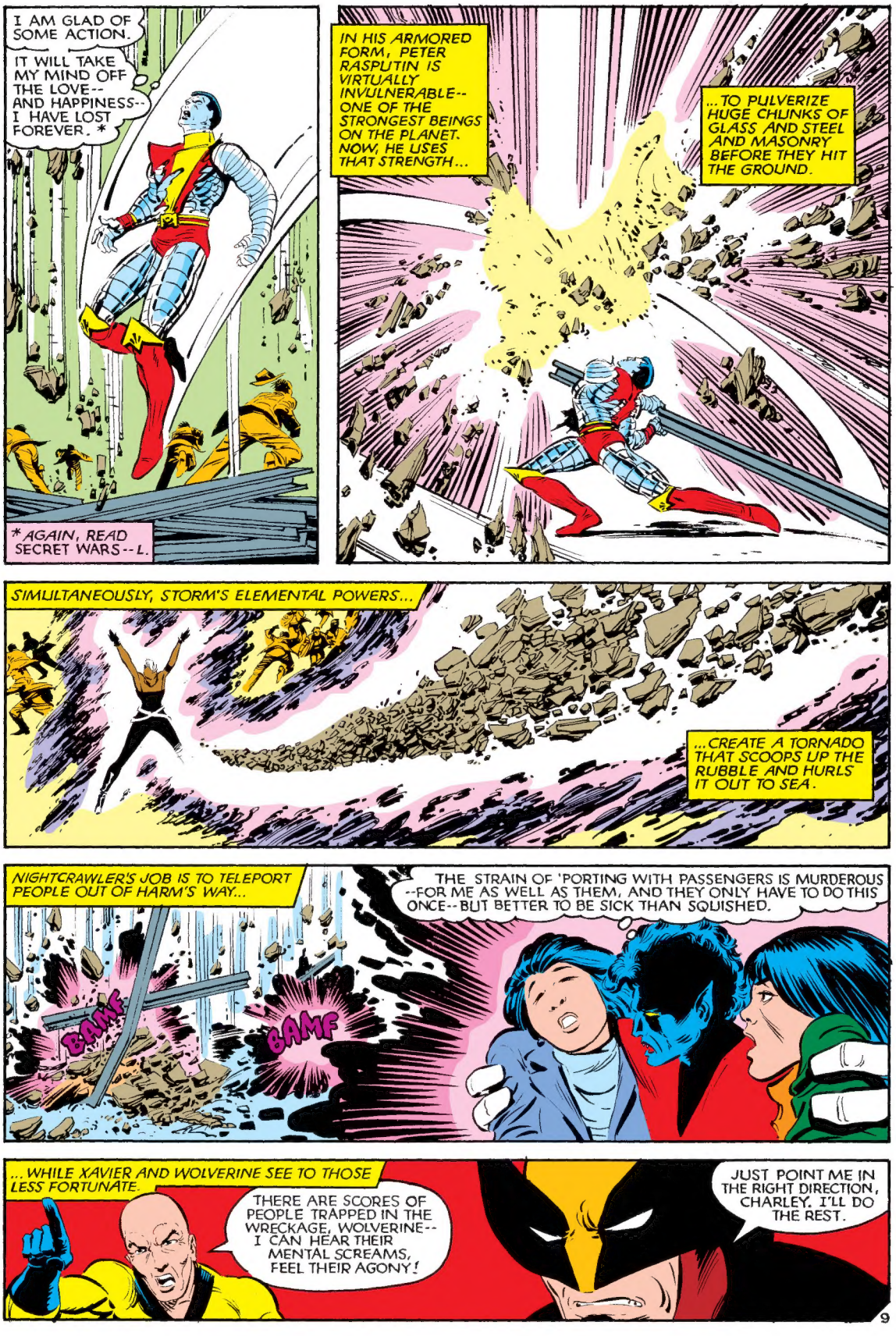

< "SOUND A STAGE-ONE ALERT! I WANT THAT BEAST DRIVEN OFF-- OR DESTROYED!" >

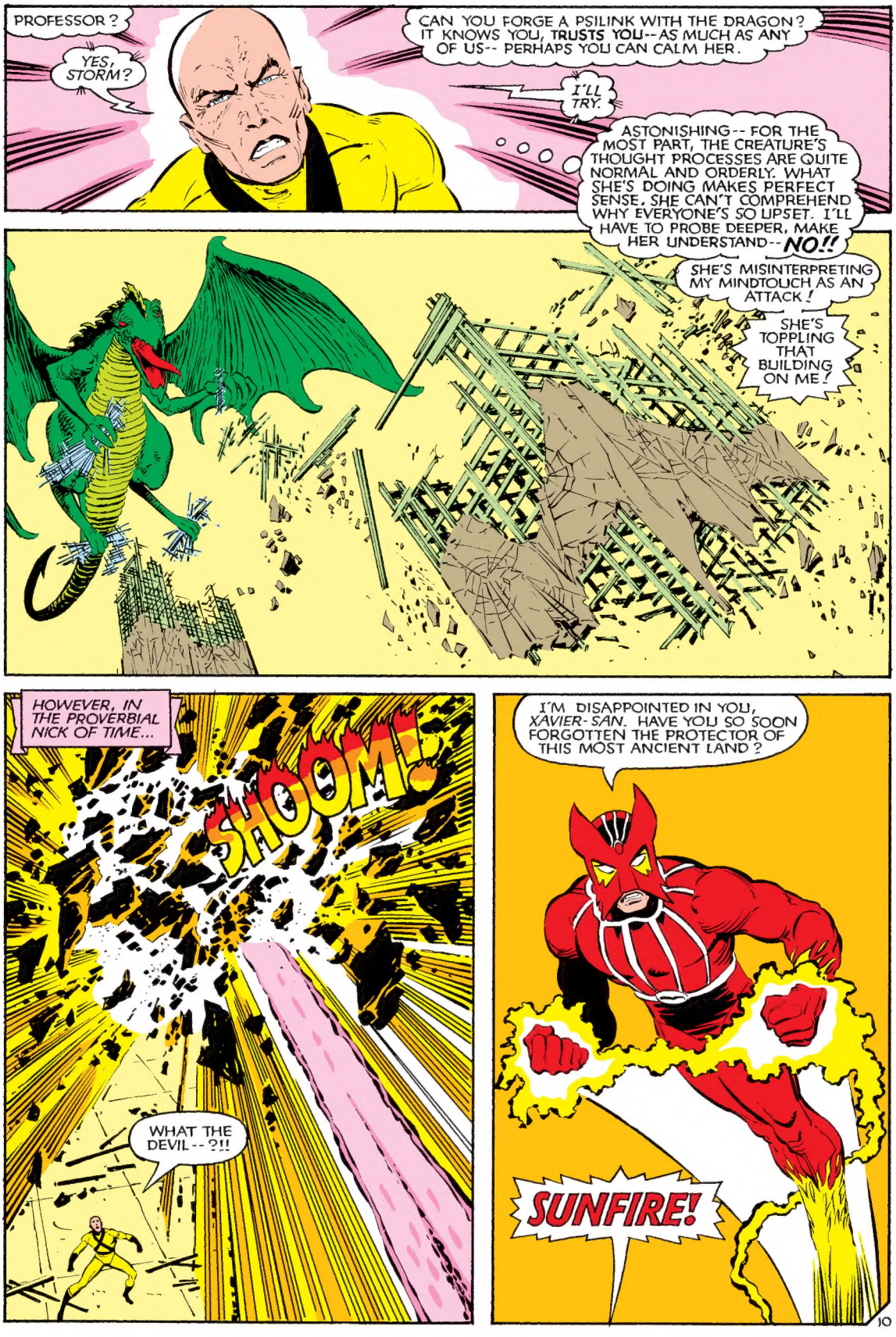
< ANOTHER SIGHTING, GENERAL -- IT'S THE AMERICAN SUPER HERO GROUP, THE X-MEN! >
< SPLENDID! OF COURSE I HAVE THE UTMOST FAITH IN OUR TROOPS AND WEAPONRY... >
< THEY'RE PURSUING THE DRAGON! >

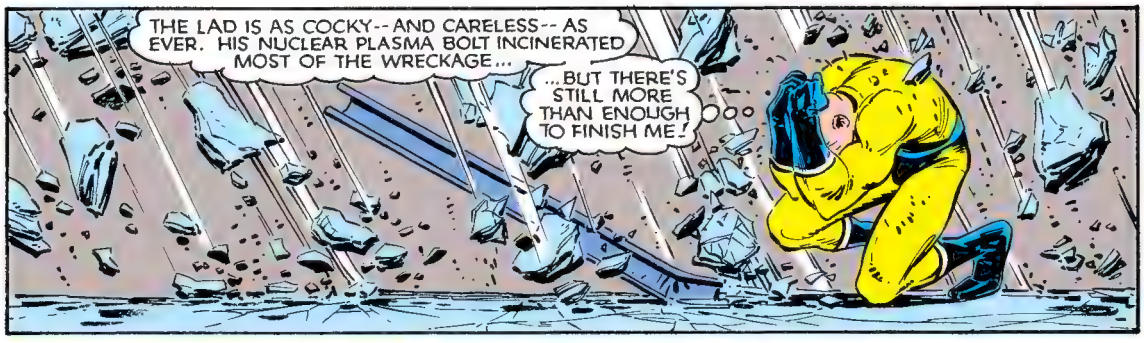

< ... BUT AGAINST MENACES SUCH AS THIS, LADY MARIKO, IT'S BEST TO HAVE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.
< THE -- X-MEN?!? >
< WOLVERINE SHOULD BE WITH THEM. >

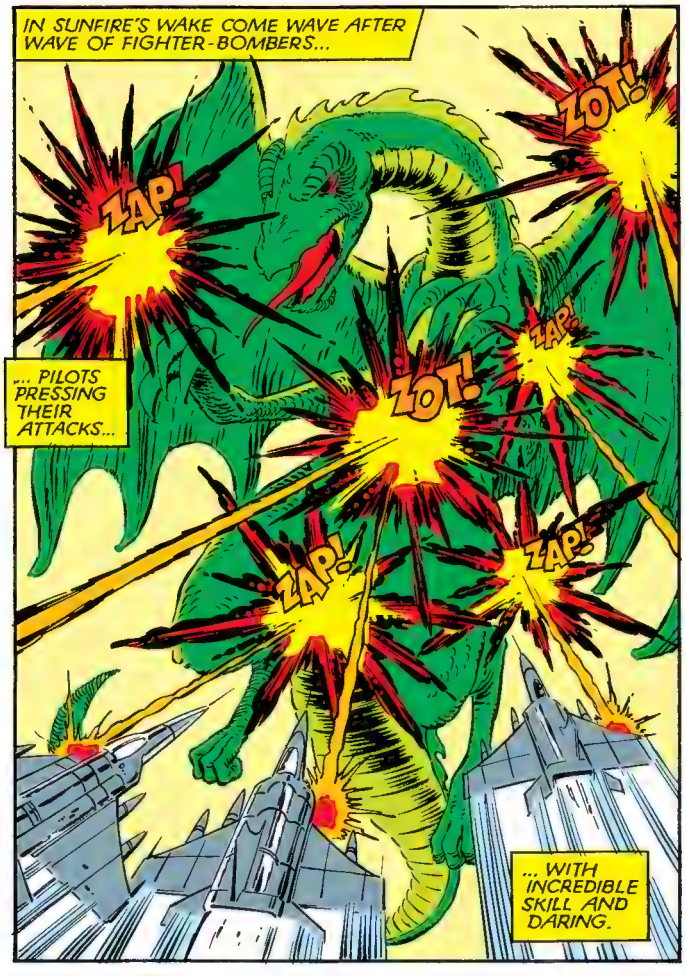
< SHIRO, PERHAPS YOU ALSO MAY BE OF USE... >
< IS YOUR CONCERN FOR THE HOMELAND, MARIKO, OR FOR YOUR GAIJIN LOVER? >
< I AM LORD OF CLAN YASHIDA, COUSIN. >
< IT IS NOT YOUR PLACE TO QUESTION MY WILL -- MERELY OBEY. >

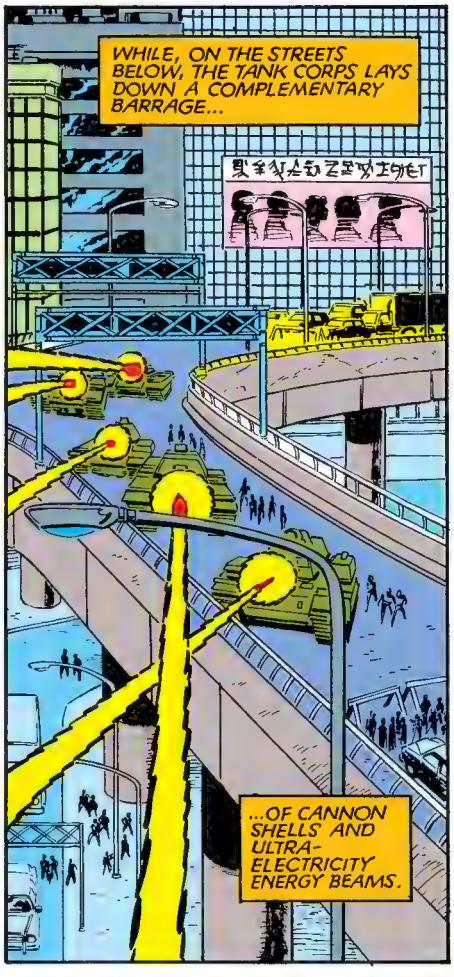

MEANWHILE...
... DOWNTOWN...
CRUNCH!
... THE DRAGON IS MAKING ITS PRESENCE FELT.
RRRRRUMMBLE
CRASH!
THE SIZE OF THAT THING-- AND THE STRENGTH--
--IT'S TEARING THAT SKY-SCRAPER APART WITH EASE!
BUT WHY?! IT WAS ALWAYS A GENTLE BEAST, OURS AND LOCKHEED'S FRIEND!
COULD ITS SIZE CHANGE-- AND THIS ALIEN ENVIRONMENT-- HAVE SO DIS-ORIENTED IT THAT THE POOR CREATURE HAS BEEN DRIVEN MAD?!
OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO SAFEGUARD INNOCENT LIVES-- COLOSSUS, YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IS THE FALLING DEBRIS.


I AM GLAD OF SOME ACTION.
IT WILL TAKE MY MIND OFF THE LOVE--AND HAPPINESS--I HAVE LOST FOREVER. *
* AGAIN, READ SECRET WARS--L.
IN HIS ARMORED FORM, PETER RASPUTIN IS VIRTUALLY INVULNERABLE--ONE OF THE STRONGEST BEINGS ON THE PLANET. NOW, HE USES THAT STRENGTH...
...TO PULVERIZE HUGE CHUNKS OF GLASS AND STEEL AND MASONRY BEFORE THEY HIT THE GROUND.
SIMULTANEOUSLY, STORM'S ELEMENTAL POWERS...
...CREATE A TORNADO THAT SCOOPS UP THE RUBBLE AND HURLS IT OUT TO SEA.
NIGHTCRAWLER'S JOB IS TO TELEPORT PEOPLE OUT OF HARM'S WAY...
BAMF
BAMF
THE STRAIN OF 'PORTING WITH PASSENGERS IS MURDEROUS--FOR ME AS WELL AS THEM, AND THEY ONLY HAVE TO DO THIS ONCE--BUT BETTER TO BE SICK THAN SQUISHED.
...WHILE XAVIER AND WOLVERINE SEE TO THOSE LESS FORTUNATE.
THERE ARE SCORES OF PEOPLE TRAPPED IN THE WRECKAGE, WOLVERINE--I CAN HEAR THEIR MENTAL SCREAMS, FEEL THEIR AGONY!
JUST POINT ME IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, CHARLEY. I'LL DO THE REST.

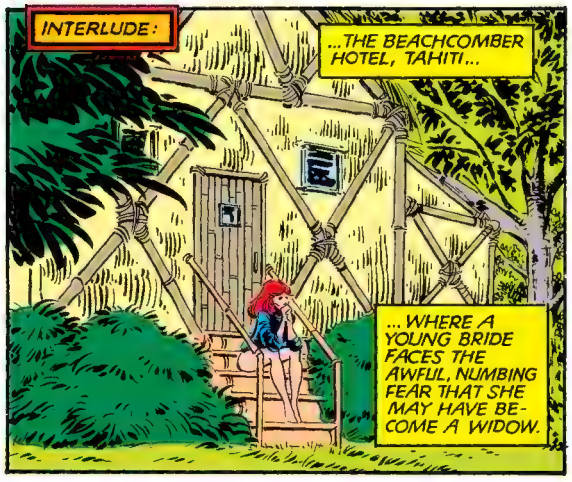

PROFESSOR?
YES, STORM?
CAN YOU FORGE A PSILINK WITH THE DRAGON? IT KNOWS YOU, TRUSTS YOU--AS MUCH AS ANY OF US-- PERHAPS YOU CAN CALM HER.
I'LL TRY.
ASTONISHING-- FOR THE MOST PART, THE CREATURE'S THOUGHT PROCESSES ARE QUITE NORMAL AND ORDERLY. WHAT SHE'S DOING MAKES PERFECT SENSE. SHE CAN'T COMPREHEND WHY EVERYONE'S SO UPSET. I'LL HAVE TO PROBE DEEPER, MAKE HER UNDERSTAND-- NO!!
SHE'S MISINTERPRETING MY MINDTOUCH AS AN ATTACK!
SHE'S TOPPLING THAT BUILDING ON ME!
HOWEVER, IN THE PROVERBIAL NICK OF TIME...
SHOOM!
WHAT THE DEVIL--?!!
I'M DISAPPOINTED IN YOU, XAVIER-SAN. HAVE YOU SO SOON FORGOTTEN THE PROTECTOR OF THIS MOST ANCIENT LAND?
SUNFIRE!

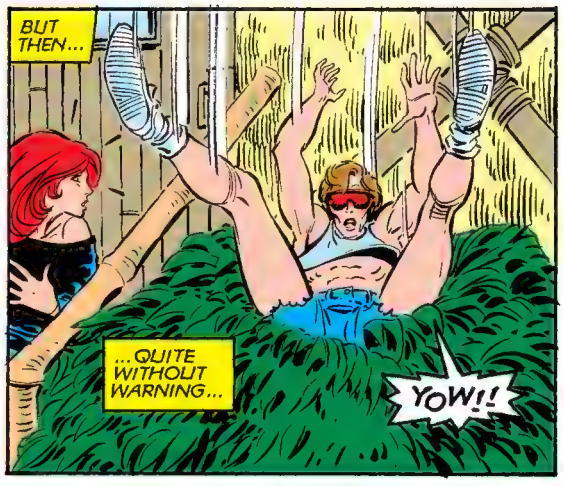

THE LAD IS AS COCKY-- AND CARELESS-- AS EVER. HIS NUCLEAR PLASMA BOLT INCINERATED MOST OF THE WRECKAGE...
...BUT THERE'S STILL MORE THAN ENOUGH TO FINISH ME!

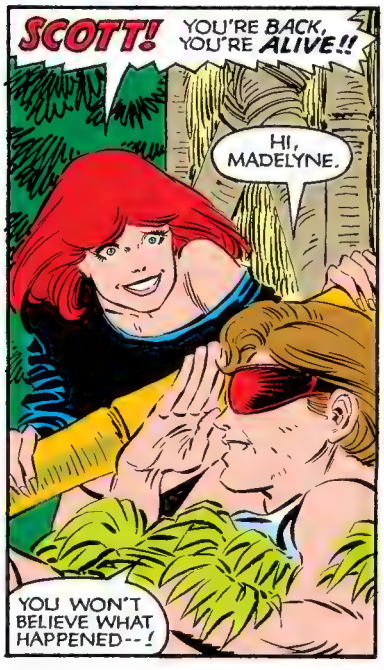

IN SUNFIRE'S WAKE COME WAVE AFTER WAVE OF FIGHTER-BOMBERS...
ZAP!
ZOT!
ZAP!
ZOT!
ZAP!
ZAP!
... PILOTS PRESSING THEIR ATTACKS...
... WITH INCREDIBLE SKILL AND DARING.


WHILE, ON THE STREETS BELOW, THE TANK CORPS LAYS DOWN A COMPLEMENTARY BARRAGE...
...OF CANNON SHELLS AND ULTRA-ELECTRICITY ENERGY BEAMS.

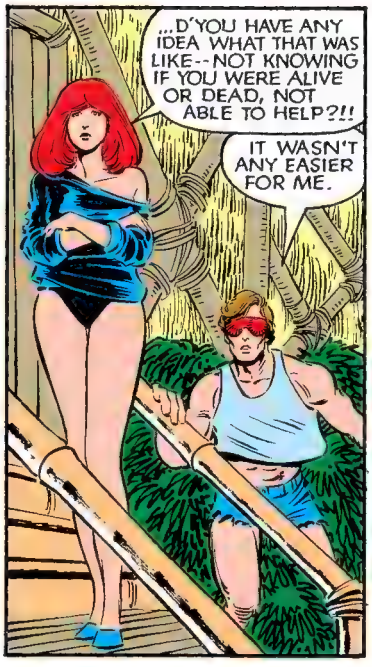
BOSZHE MOY!
THOSE GUYS KNOW THEIR BUSINESS. BUT THEN, FROM WHAT MARIKO TOLD ME-- AN' WHAT I SAW MYSELF WHEN I WORKED OVER HERE--
--THEY'VE HAD A LOT OF PRACTICE.
LOCKHEED WON'T LIKE THEM SHOOTING AT HIS LADY-LOVE.
WHAT'S TO WORRY, ELF-- THEY'RE NOT DOIN' HER ANY DAMAGE.

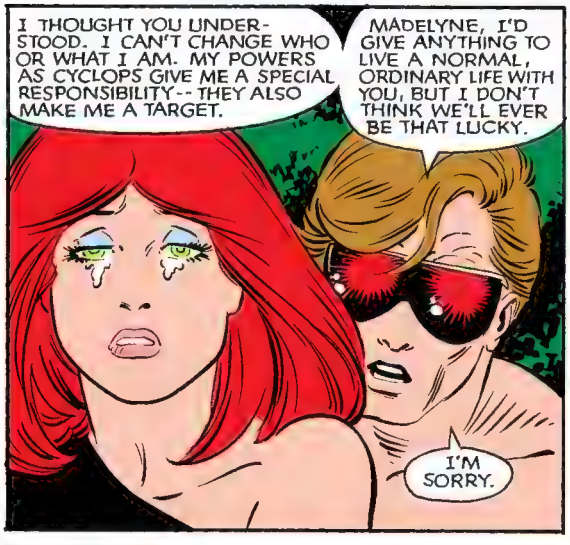

INTERLUDE:
...THE BEACHCOMBER HOTEL, TAHITI...
...WHERE A YOUNG BRIDE FACES THE AWFUL, NUMBING FEAR THAT SHE MAY HAVE BECOME A WIDOW.

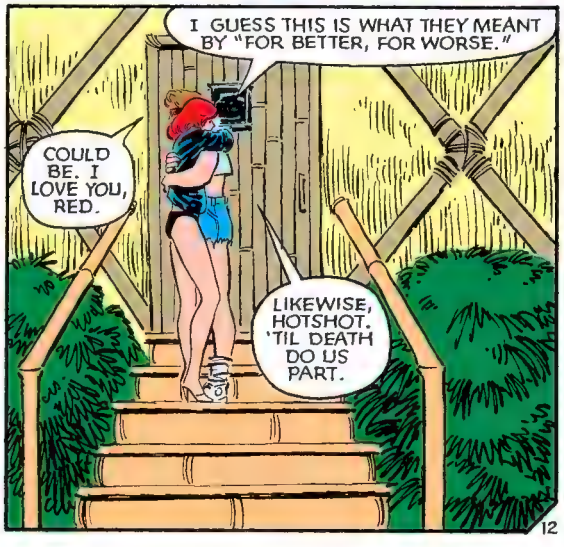

BUT THEN...
...QUITE WITHOUT WARNING...
YOW!!


SCOTT!
YOU'RE BACK, YOU'RE ALIVE!!
HI, MADELYNE.
YOU WON'T BELIEVE WHAT HAPPENED--!

YOU DISAPPEARED RIGHT OUT OF MY ARMS!
IT WASN'T MY IDEA, I WAS KIDNAPPED!
THAT'S SUPPOSED TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER?! YOU'VE BEEN GONE OVER A WEEK...


...D'YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT THAT WAS LIKE--NOT KNOWING IF YOU WERE ALIVE OR DEAD, NOT ABLE TO HELP?!!
IT WASN'T ANY EASIER FOR ME.


I THOUGHT YOU UNDERSTOOD. I CAN'T CHANGE WHO OR WHAT I AM. MY POWERS AS CYCLOPS GIVE ME A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY--THEY ALSO MAKE ME A TARGET.
MADELYNE, I'D GIVE ANYTHING TO LIVE A NORMAL, ORDINARY LIFE WITH YOU, BUT I DON'T THINK WE'LL EVER BE THAT LUCKY.
I'M SORRY.


I GUESS THIS IS WHAT THEY MEANT BY "FOR BETTER, FOR WORSE."
COULD BE. I LOVE YOU, RED.
LIKEWISE, HOTSHOT. 'TIL DEATH DO US PART.

TŌKYŌ.

THE JAPANESE THROW EVERYTHING THEY HAVE AT THE DRAGON.

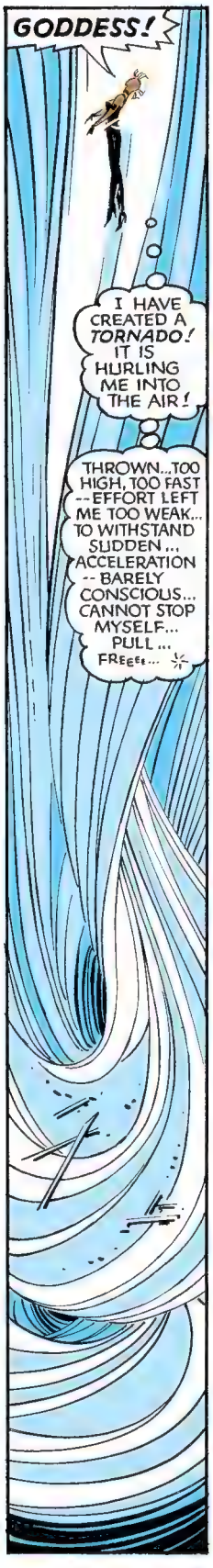
SHE DOESN'T EVEN NOTICE AS, HER WORK DONE, SHE BEATS HER WAY SKYWARD...

... WINGS GENERATING GUSTS OF SUCH FORCE THAT 70-TON MAIN BATTLE TANKS ARE SWEPT ASIDE LIKE TOYS...

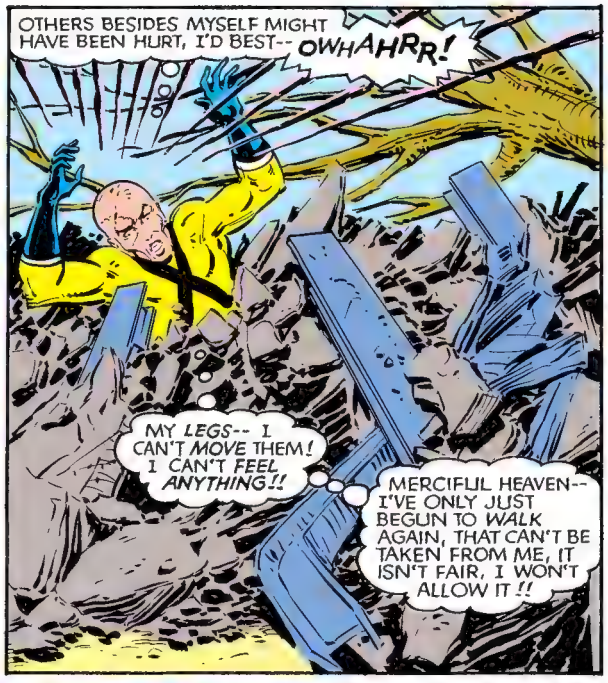
... AND SKYSCRAPERS DESIGNED TO WITHSTAND THE WORST EARTHQUAKES IMAGINABLE BEGIN TO SWAY OMINOUSLY.

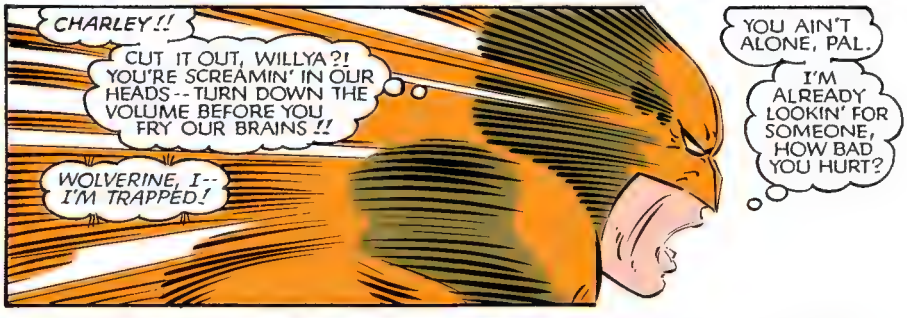
I MUST CONTAIN THE DRAGON'S WIND, OR SHE WILL LEVEL THE CITY!

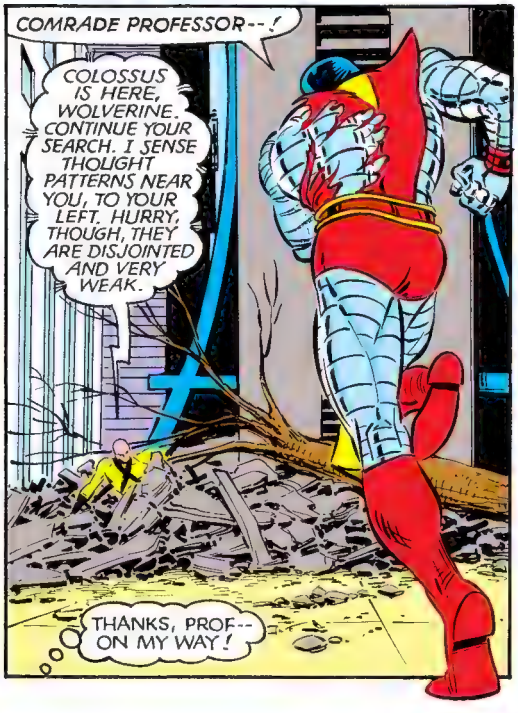
BUT ITS-- POWER! FIGHTING A HURRICANE WOULD BE LESS EFFORT!


GODDESS!
I HAVE CREATED A TORNADO! IT IS HURLING ME INTO THE AIR!
THROWN...TOO HIGH, TOO FAST --EFFORT LEFT ME TOO WEAK... TO WITHSTAND SUDDEN... ACCELERATION --BARELY CONSCIOUS... CANNOT STOP MYSELF... PULL... FREEE...

MEANWHILE...
Uhnnnhhh...
SUNFIRE... NEEDS PRACTICE --SOME ADVANCED TRAINING--HE SHOULD HAVE PULVERIZED THAT DEBRIS.

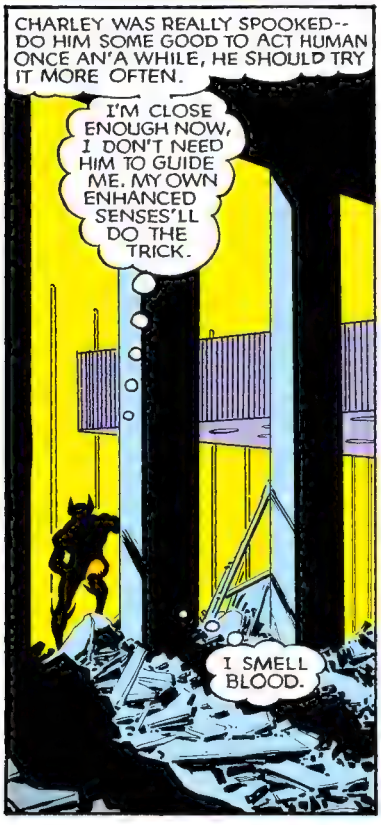

OTHERS BESIDES MYSELF MIGHT HAVE BEEN HURT, I'D BEST-- OWHAHRR!
MY LEGS-- I CAN'T MOVE THEM! I CAN'T FEEL ANYTHING!!
MERCIFUL HEAVEN-- I'VE ONLY JUST BEGUN TO WALK AGAIN, THAT CAN'T BE TAKEN FROM ME, IT ISN'T FAIR, I WON'T ALLOW IT!!

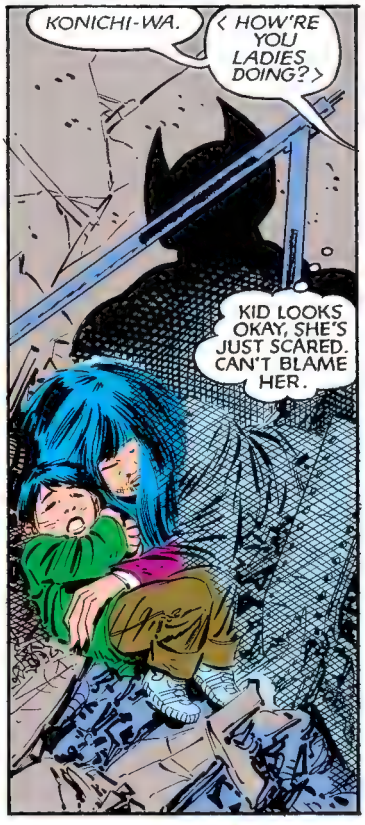

CHARLEY!!
CUT IT OUT, WILLYA?! YOU'RE SCREAMIN' IN OUR HEADS--TURN DOWN THE VOLUME BEFORE YOU FRY OUR BRAINS!!
WOLVERINE, I-- I'M TRAPPED!
YOU AIN'T ALONE, PAL.
I'M ALREADY LOOKIN' FOR SOMEONE, HOW BAD YOU HURT?

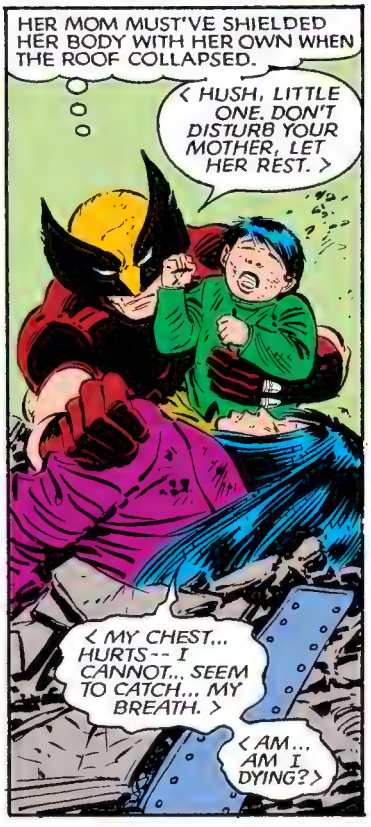

COMRADE PROFESSOR--!
COLOSSUS IS HERE, WOLVERINE. CONTINUE YOUR SEARCH. I SENSE THOUGHT PATTERNS NEAR YOU, TO YOUR LEFT. HURRY, THOUGH, THEY ARE DISJOINTED AND VERY WEAK.
THANKS, PROF-- ON MY WAY!

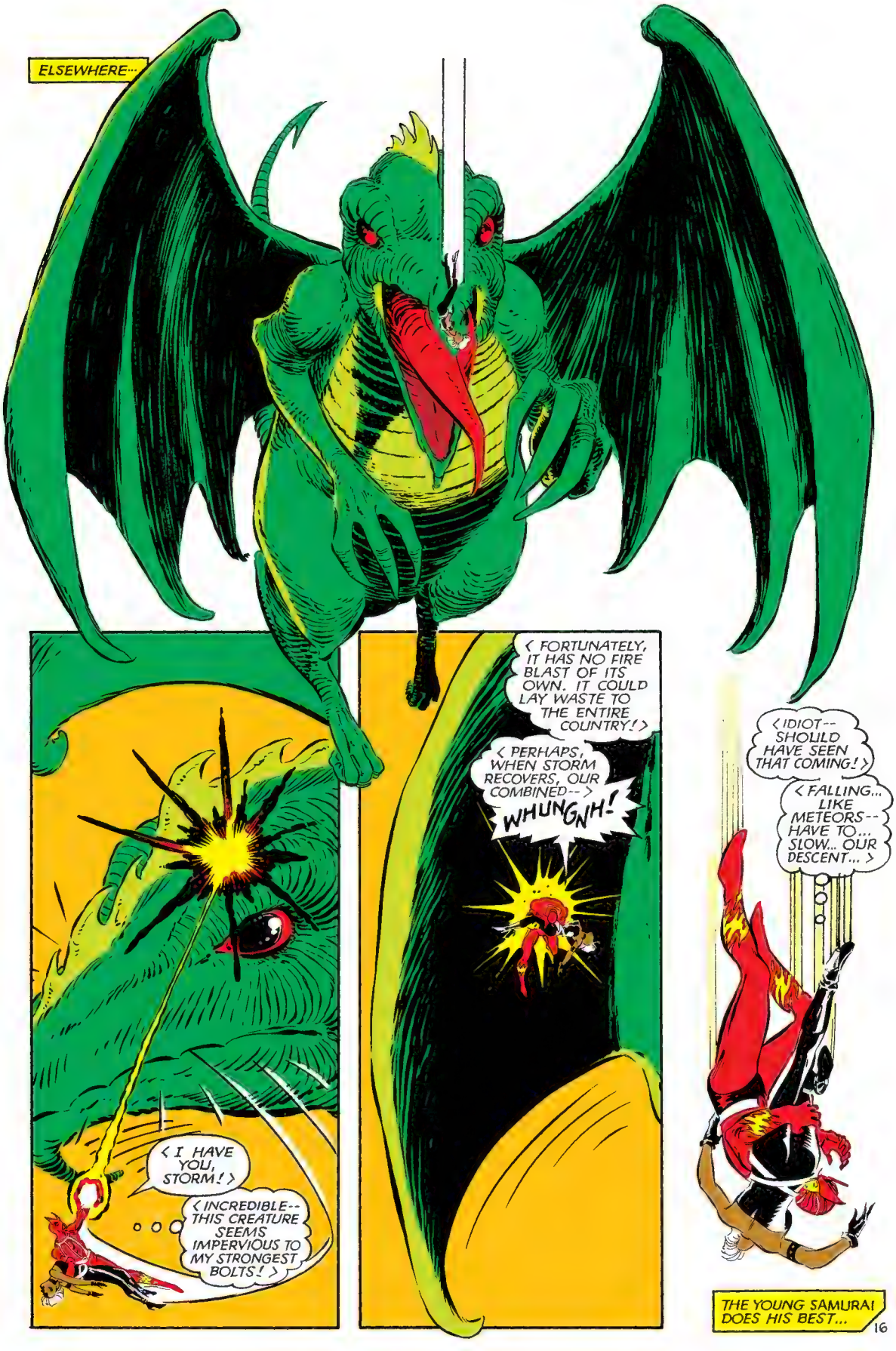
I'M ASHAMED OF MYSELF--I'M NOT SERIOUSLY INJURED--FAR FROM IT--BUT WHEN I THOUGHT MY LEGS HAD BEEN CRUSHED, I PANICKED. I NEVER DREAMED IT WAS POSSIBLE TO KNOW SUCH TERROR.
MY BODY MAY BE WHOLE, BUT THE OLD PSYCHIC SCARS REMAIN. PERHAPS FOREVER.

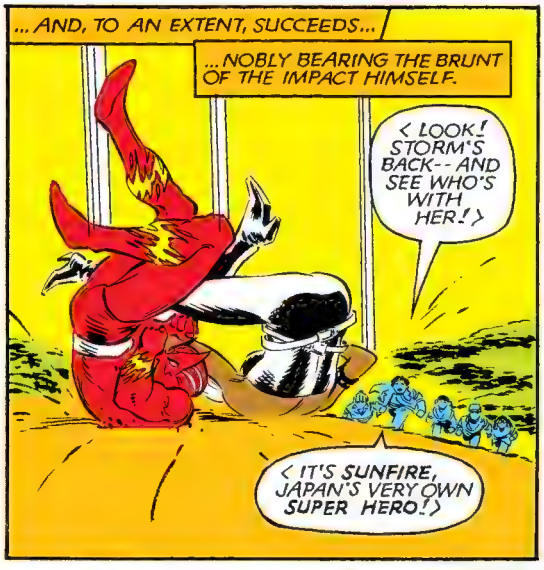
WHAT RIGHT HAVE I THEN TO LEAD THE X-MEN--OR TO EVEN BE A PART OF THE TEAM--
--IF I CANNOT MASTER MYSELF?
BE PATIENT, PROFESSOR.
THIS WILL NOT TAKE LONG.


CHARLEY WAS REALLY SPOOKED--DO HIM SOME GOOD TO ACT HUMAN ONCE AN'A WHILE, HE SHOULD TRY IT MORE OFTEN.
I'M CLOSE ENOUGH NOW, I DON'T NEED HIM TO GUIDE ME. MY OWN ENHANCED SENSES'LL DO THE TRICK.
I SMELL BLOOD.


KONICHI-WA.
< HOW'RE YOU LADIES DOING? >
KID LOOKS OKAY, SHE'S JUST SCARED. CAN'T BLAME HER.


HER MOM MUST'VE SHIELDED HER BODY WITH HER OWN WHEN THE ROOF COLLAPSED.
< HUSH, LITTLE ONE. DON'T DISTURB YOUR MOTHER, LET HER REST. >
< MY CHEST... HURTS-- I CANNOT... SEEM TO CATCH... MY BREATH. >
< AM... AM I DYING? >
HEI.
< I AM AFRAID. >
< I'M WITH YOU. >
< MY DAUGHTER--AMIKO--WHO WILL CARE FOR HER?! >
< I'LL KEEP HER SAFE. I'LL SEE SHE'S RAISED AS IF SHE WERE MY OWN. YOU HAVE MY WORD. >
ARIGATO, SAMURAI-SAN--DOMO... ARIGATO...

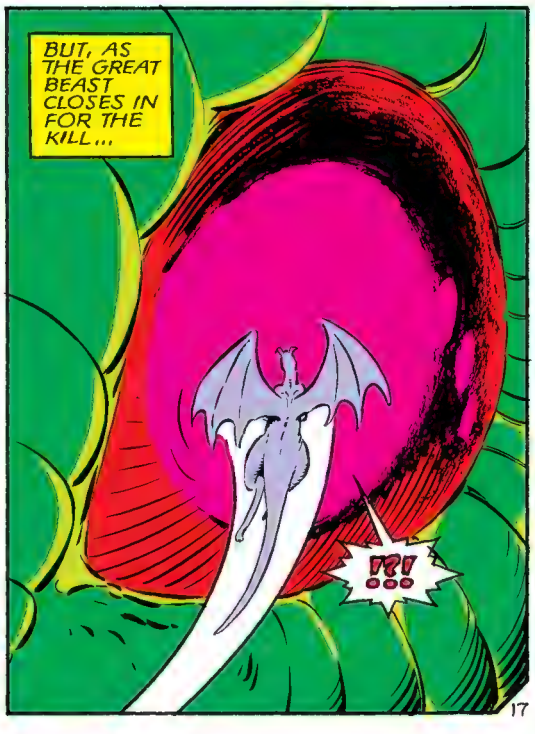

ELSEWHERE...
< I HAVE YOU, STORM! >
< INCREDIBLE-- THIS CREATURE SEEMS IMPERVIOUS TO MY STRONGEST BOLTS! >
< FORTUNATELY, IT HAS NO FIRE BLAST OF ITS OWN. IT COULD LAY WASTE TO THE ENTIRE COUNTRY! >
< PERHAPS, WHEN STORM RECOVERS, OUR COMBINED-- >
WHUNGNH!
< IDIOT-- SHOULD HAVE SEEN THAT COMING! >
< FALLING... LIKE METEORS-- HAVE TO... SLOW... OUR DESCENT... >
THE YOUNG SAMURAI DOES HIS BEST...

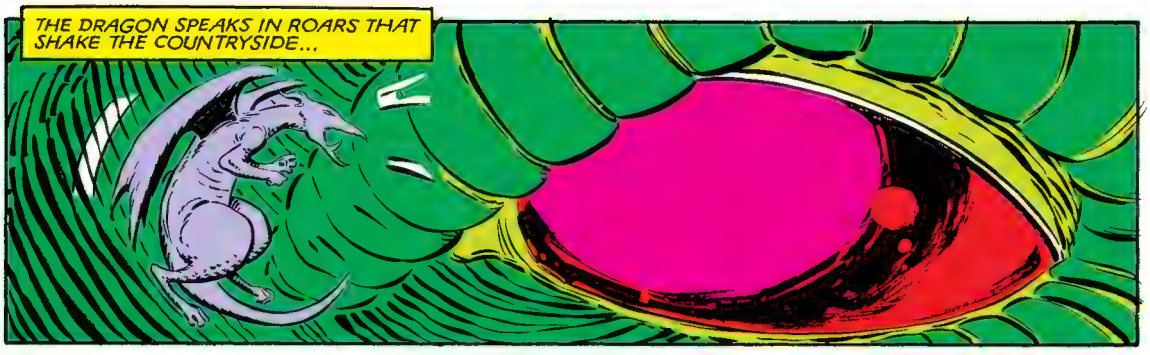

...AND, TO AN EXTENT, SUCCEEDS...
...NOBLY BEARING THE BRUNT OF THE IMPACT HIMSELF.
< LOOK! STORM'S BACK-- AND SEE WHO'S WITH HER! >
< IT'S SUNFIRE, JAPAN'S VERY OWN SUPER HERO! >

JIRO... TERUKI -- THE CHILDREN ON THE HILL?! HAVE MY WINDS BLOWN ME SO FAR ?!!
< A- ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, STORM-SAN?! YOU FELL SO HARD! >
< JIRO--!!!!! >

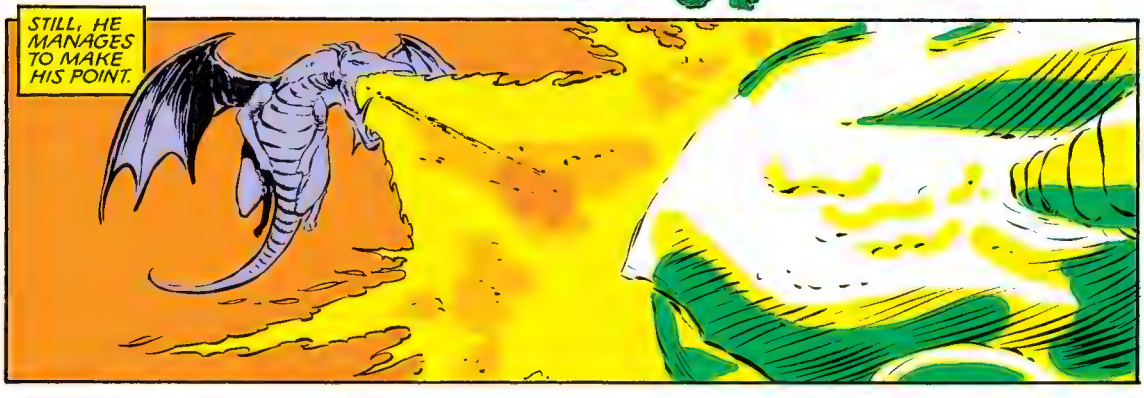
< Uh-oh! >

CHILDREN-- RUN!!

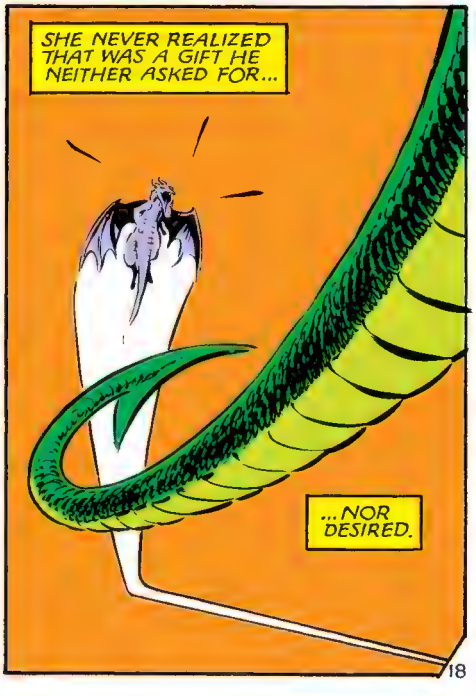

BUT, AS THE GREAT BEAST CLOSES IN FOR THE KILL...
!?!


THE DRAGON SPEAKS IN ROARS THAT SHAKE THE COUNTRYSIDE...

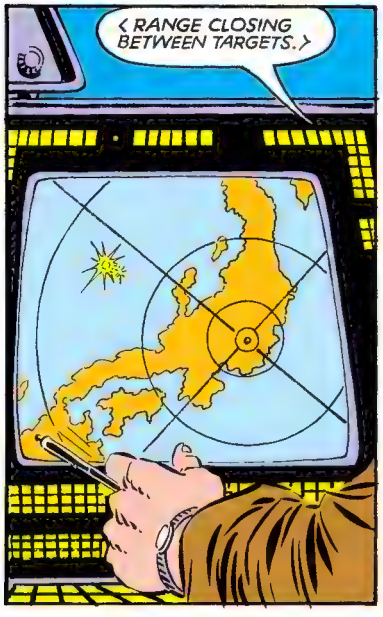
...WHILE LOCKHEED'S VOICE CAN BARELY BE HEARD.

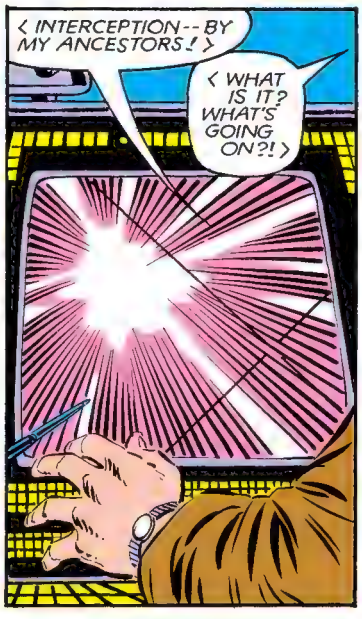

STILL, HE MANAGES TO MAKE HIS POINT.

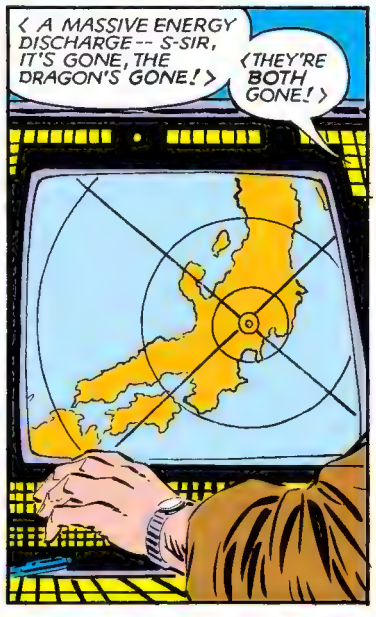
SHE REELS AWAY...
...MORE IN SHOCK THAN ACTUAL PAIN. SHE CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING-- HOW COULD LOCKHEED TREAT HER SO, WHEN SHE HAD GIVEN HIM HER HEARTS?

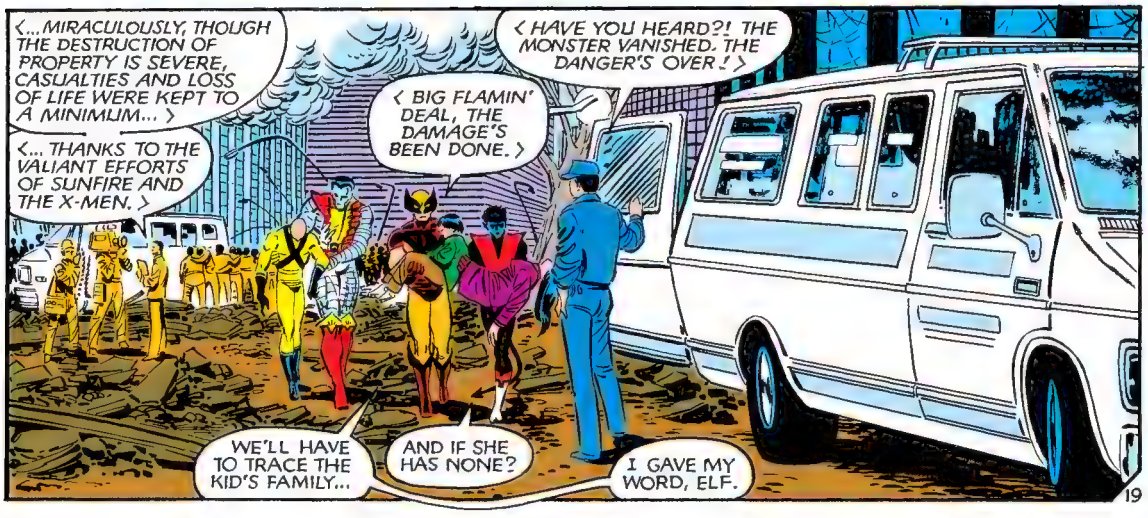

SHE NEVER REALIZED THAT WAS A GIFT HE NEITHER ASKED FOR...
...NOR DESIRED.

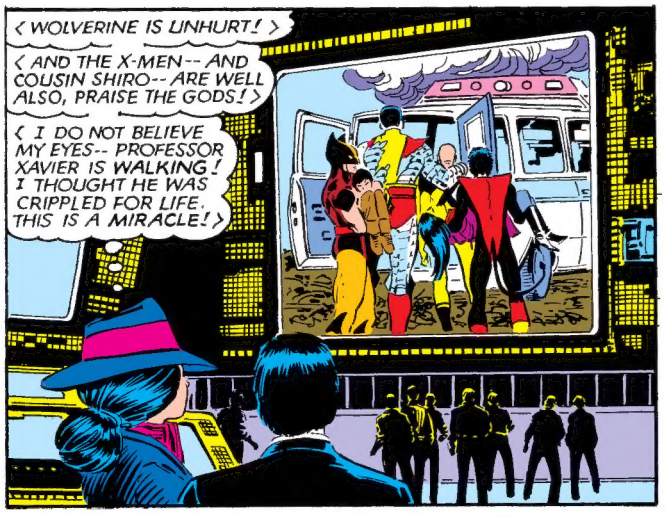
< TWO CONTACTS, GENERAL! THE TINY BLIP'S PURSUING THE DRAGON! THEY'RE HEADING NORTH ACROSS THE SEA OF JAPAN, TOWARDS SOVIET AIRSPACE! >
< GOOD. LET'S SEE THEM TRY TO SHOOT THAT DOWN. >
< CENTRAL TOKYO WAS HARD HIT, HIDEKI. NOTIFY CIVIL DEFENSE WE'RE MOBILIZING ALL AVAILABLE RESCUE UNITS. >


< RANGE CLOSING BETWEEN TARGETS. >

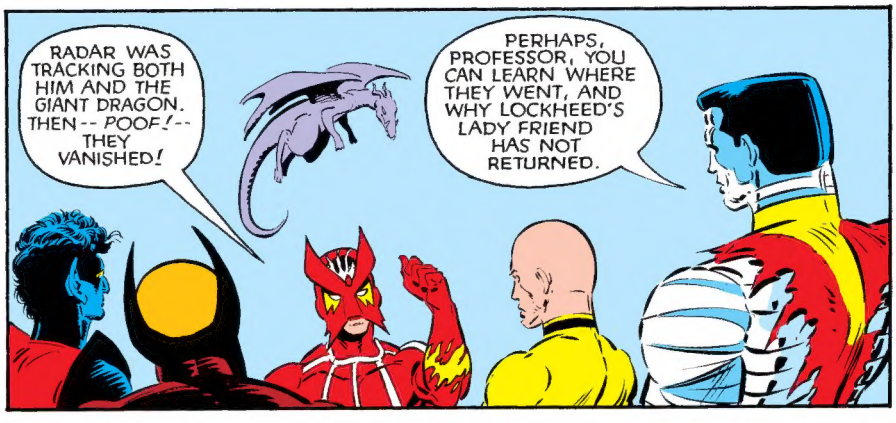

< INTERCEPTION -- BY MY ANCESTORS! >
< WHAT IS IT? WHAT'S GOING ON?! >

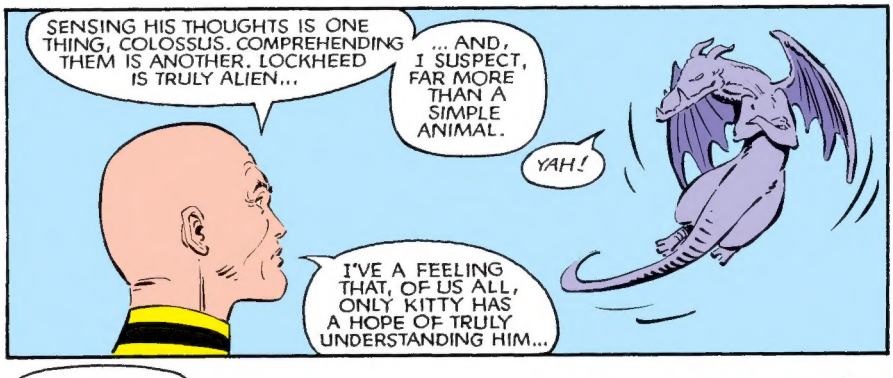

< A MASSIVE ENERGY DISCHARGE -- S-SIR, IT'S GONE, THE DRAGON'S GONE! >
< THEY'RE BOTH GONE! >

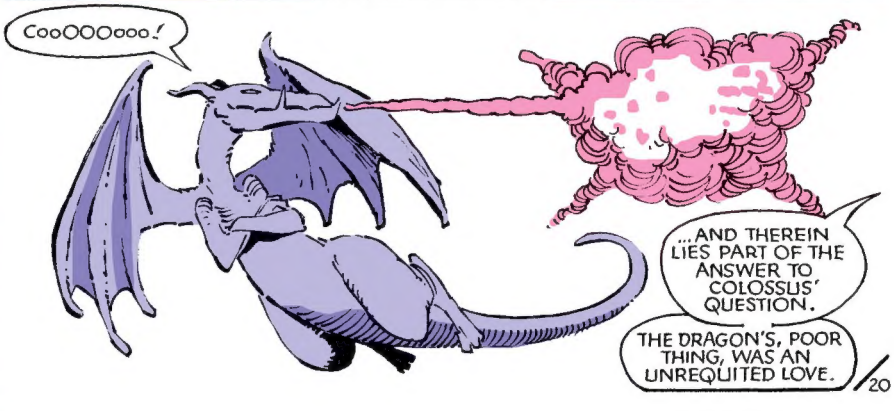

< ...MIRACULOUSLY, THOUGH THE DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY IS SEVERE, CASUALTIES AND LOSS OF LIFE WERE KEPT TO A MINIMUM... >
< ... THANKS TO THE VALIANT EFFORTS OF SUNFIRE AND THE X-MEN. >
< HAVE YOU HEARD?! THE MONSTER VANISHED. THE DANGER'S OVER! >
< BIG FLAMIN' DEAL, THE DAMAGE'S BEEN DONE. >
WE'LL HAVE TO TRACE THE KID'S FAMILY...
AND IF SHE HAS NONE?
I GAVE MY WORD, ELF.

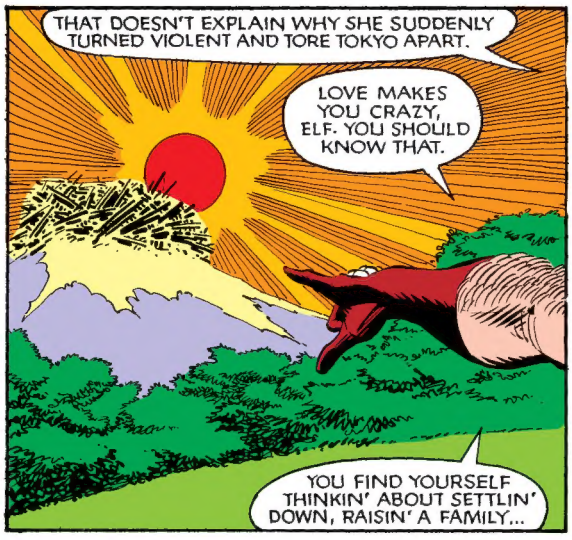

< WOLVERINE IS UNHURT! >
< AND THE X-MEN-- AND COUSIN SHIRO-- ARE WELL ALSO, PRAISE THE GODS! >
< I DO NOT BELIEVE MY EYES-- PROFESSOR XAVIER IS WALKING! I THOUGHT HE WAS CRIPPLED FOR LIFE. THIS IS A MIRACLE! >
< I WISH I COULD BE BY MY LOVE'S SIDE-- SEEING LOGAN ONLY REMINDS ME OF HOW MUCH I MISS HIM. DOES HE STILL FEEL THE SAME? >
< I WISH YOU WELL, DEAR ONE, THOUGH WE MAY NEVER MEET AGAIN, NOR GAIN THE HAPPINESS WE DESERVE. >
< THE PATH OF DUTY IS AS HARD FOR ME AND FRAUGHT WITH PERIL, AS IT IS FOR YOU.
< I PRAY I CAN WALK IT WITH YOUR COURAGE AND HONOR. >

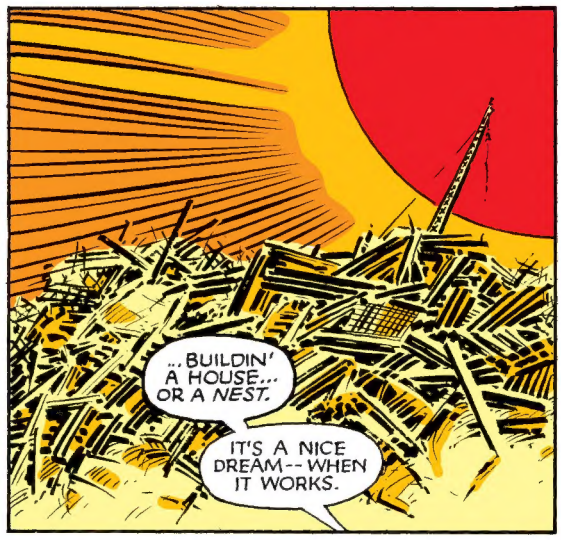
MUCH LATER, AT THE CLOSE OF THIS VERY BUSY DAY, BACK WHERE IT ALL BEGAN...
LOCKHEED SURE DON'T LOOK ANY THE WORSE FOR WEAR.

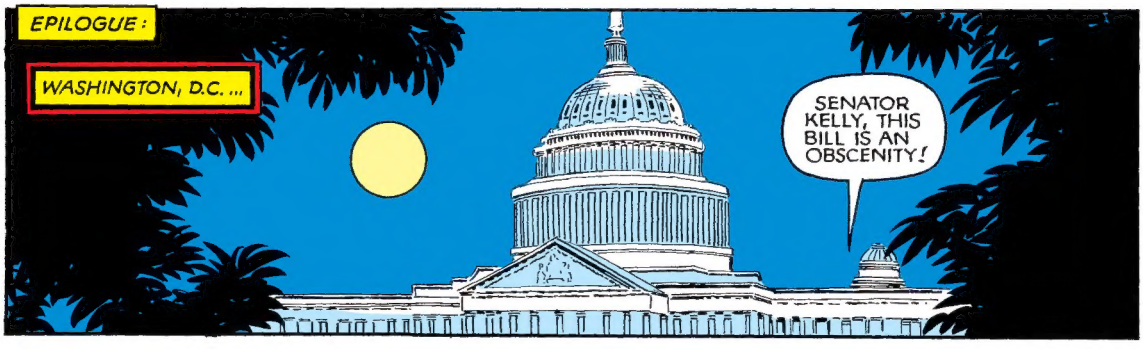

RADAR WAS TRACKING BOTH HIM AND THE GIANT DRAGON. THEN -- POOF! -- THEY VANISHED!
PERHAPS, PROFESSOR, YOU CAN LEARN WHERE THEY WENT, AND WHY LOCKHEED'S LADY FRIEND HAS NOT RETURNED.

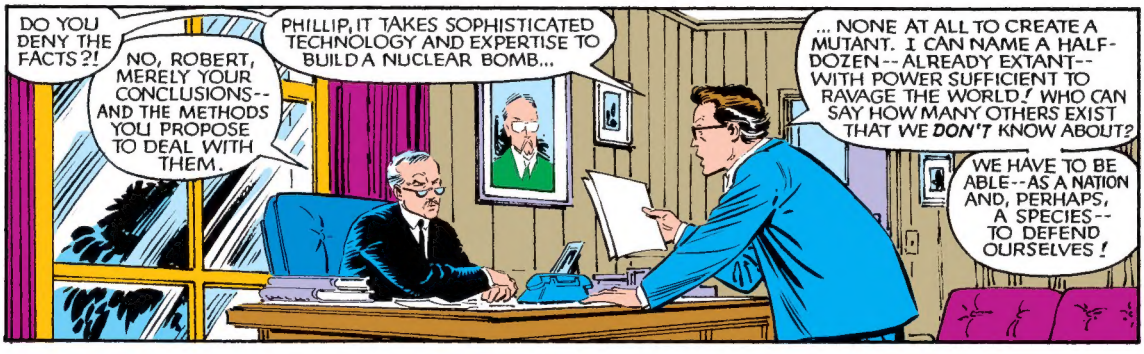

SENSING HIS THOUGHTS IS ONE THING, COLOSSUS. COMPREHENDING THEM IS ANOTHER. LOCKHEED IS TRULY ALIEN...
... AND, I SUSPECT, FAR MORE THAN A SIMPLE ANIMAL.
YAH!
I'VE A FEELING THAT, OF US ALL, ONLY KITTY HAS A HOPE OF TRULY UNDERSTANDING HIM...

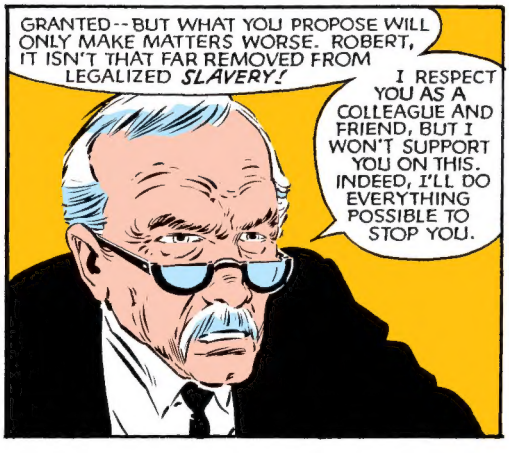

CooOOOooo!
... AND THEREIN LIES PART OF THE ANSWER TO COLOSSUS' QUESTION.
THE DRAGON'S, POOR THING, WAS AN UNREQUITED LOVE.

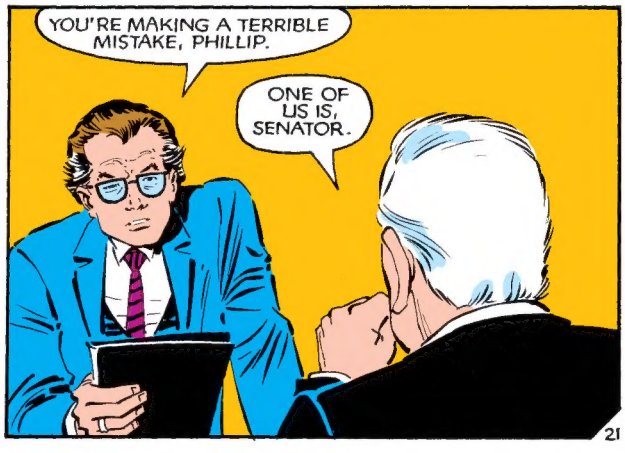

THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN WHY SHE SUDDENLY TURNED VIOLENT AND TORE TOKYO APART.
LOVE MAKES YOU CRAZY, ELF. YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT.
YOU FIND YOURSELF THINKIN' ABOUT SETTLIN' DOWN, RAISIN' A FAMILY...

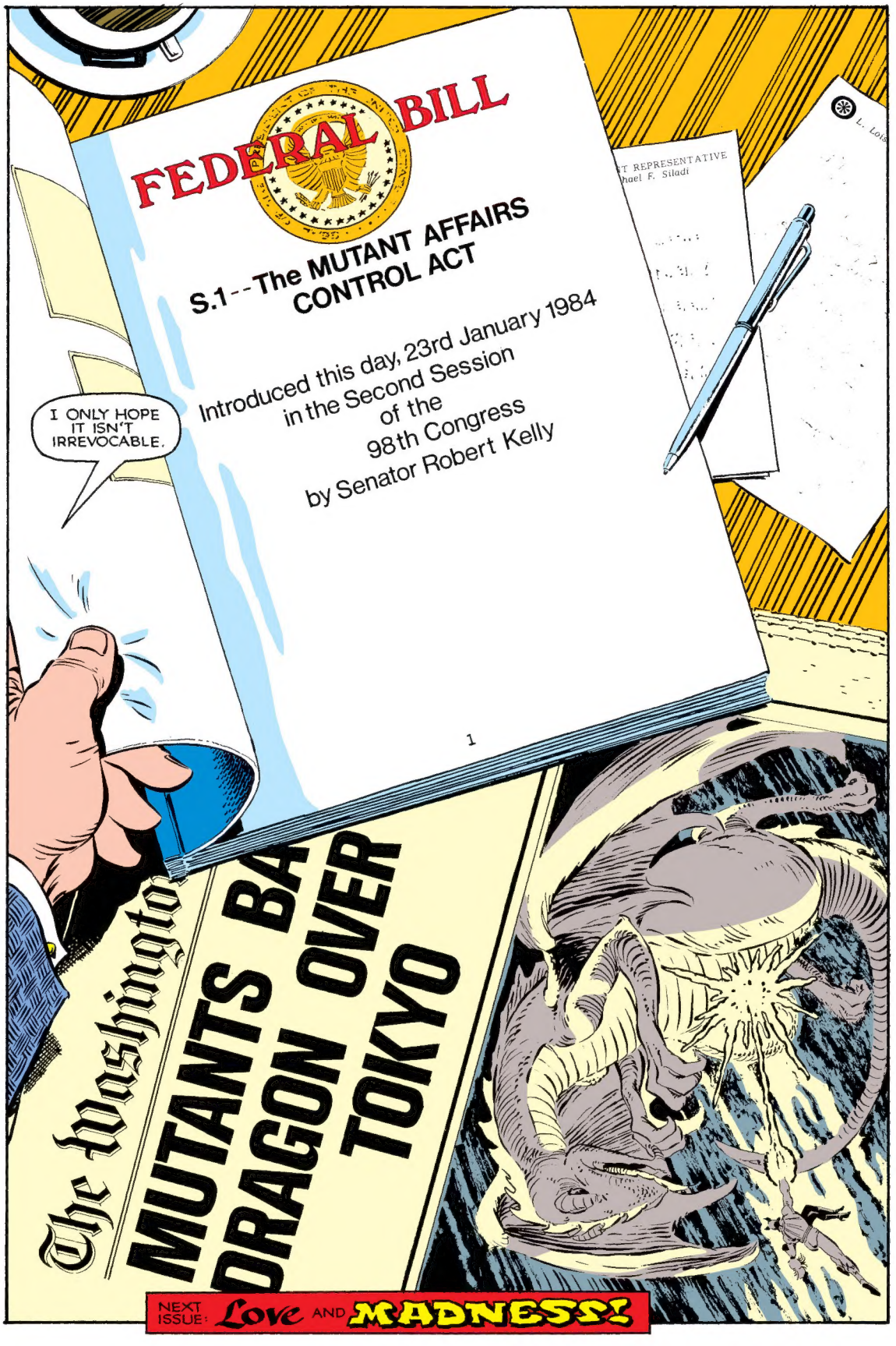

...BUILDIN' A HOUSE... OR A NEST.
IT'S A NICE DREAM--WHEN IT WORKS.


EPILOGUE:
WASHINGTON, D.C. ...
SENATOR KELLY, THIS BILL IS AN OBSCENITY!


DO YOU DENY THE FACTS?!
NO, ROBERT, MERELY YOUR CONCLUSIONS--AND THE METHODS YOU PROPOSE TO DEAL WITH THEM.
PHILLIP, IT TAKES SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERTISE TO BUILD A NUCLEAR BOMB...
... NONE AT ALL TO CREATE A MUTANT. I CAN NAME A HALF-DOZEN--ALREADY EXTANT--WITH POWER SUFFICIENT TO RAVAGE THE WORLD! WHO CAN SAY HOW MANY OTHERS EXIST THAT WE DON'T KNOW ABOUT?
WE HAVE TO BE ABLE--AS A NATION AND, PERHAPS, A SPECIES--TO DEFEND OURSELVES!


GRANTED--BUT WHAT YOU PROPOSE WILL ONLY MAKE MATTERS WORSE. ROBERT, IT ISN'T THAT FAR REMOVED FROM LEGALIZED SLAVERY!
I RESPECT YOU AS A COLLEAGUE AND FRIEND, BUT I WON'T SUPPORT YOU ON THIS. INDEED, I'LL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO STOP YOU.


YOU'RE MAKING A TERRIBLE MISTAKE, PHILLIP.
ONE OF US IS, SENATOR.


FEDERAL BILL
S.1--The MUTANT AFFAIRS CONTROL ACT
Introduced this day, 23rd January 1984
in the Second Session
of the
98th Congress
by Senator Robert Kelly
I ONLY HOPE IT ISN'T IRREVOCABLE.
1
The Washingto
MUTANTS BA
DRAGON OVER
TOKYO
NEXT ISSUE: Love AND MADNESS!

MINUTEMEN
Bluntman